



Our mission is to educate, inform, entertain and engage the communities we serve through programming and partnerships.

Traverse Area District Library and WCMU Hold Film Preview: “THE VIETNAM WAR”

A Landmark Documentary Event by Ken Burns and Lynn Novick



Marines marching in Danang, March 15, 1965.

Traverse City MI – The **Traverse Area District Library** and **WCMU Public Media** will host a film preview of **THE VIETNAM WAR**, a landmark documentary series by Ken Burns and Lynn Novick, on **Wednesday, September 27 at 7 p.m.** The 90-minute event will occur at the Woodmere (Main) Library, 610 Woodmere Avenue in Traverse City.

Michael Schloff, a Captain in the U.S. Marine Corps who was stationed in Vietnam from 1970-1971 will share his experiences. While there, Schloff served as an infantry officer; forward observer; 10D team leader; and, platoon commander in combat on a remote Vietnam hilltop.

Earlier in the day, WCMU staff will be on hand to accept letters sent home from Vietnam to be used in its “Letters Home Wall” travelling exhibit. WCMU is asking that veterans and their families submit letters and photos for placement in the project which will become a permanent exhibit in the Michigan Military Heritage Museum’s Vietnam collection. The materials will be scanned and originals will remain with the owners.

WCMU will also produce a limited number of video and audio recordings of individuals reading a letter* from those they submit. Some of the recordings will be selected to air on WCMU Public Media and www.wcmu.org. Individuals interested in submitting materials or recording a letter* should contact Linda Dielman at 800.727.9268 or Linda.Dielman@cmich.edu. WCMU Public Radio is involved with this Vietnam War community outreach effort by weaving Vietnam War-related content into their music and news programming.

THE VIETNAM WAR, a new 10-part, 18-hour documentary film series directed by Ken Burns and Lynn Novick, will air on WCMU Public Television beginning Tuesday, Oct. 3 at 9:00 p.m. The series will air one episode per week through Nov. 28. ([see clips here](#))

MORE ABOUT “THE VIETNAM WAR” PBS SERIES

In an immersive narrative, Burns and Novick tell the epic story of the Vietnam War as it has never before been told on film. THE VIETNAM WAR features testimony from nearly 100 witnesses, including many Americans who fought in the war and others who opposed it, as well as Vietnamese combatants and civilians from both the winning and losing sides.

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* “letter” may be actual letters, poems, diary selections, etc.

“The Vietnam War was a decade of agony that took the lives of more than 58,000 Americans,” Burns said. “Not since the Civil War have we as a country been so torn apart. There wasn’t an American alive then who wasn’t affected in some way — from those who fought and sacrificed in the war, to families of service members and POWs, to those who protested the war in open conflict with their government and fellow citizens. More than 40 years after it ended, and we are still arguing about why it went wrong, who was to blame and whether it was all worth it.”

THE VIETNAM WAR features new, original music written and recorded by Academy Award-winning composers Trent Reznor and Atticus Ross. The film also features new music arranged and performed by Grammy Award-winning cellist Yo-Yo Ma and The Silk Road Ensemble. The series also features more than 120 popular songs that define the era, including tracks from The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, Bob Dylan, Jimi Hendrix, Simon & Garfunkel, Janis Joplin and many more.

THE VIETNAM WAR is a production of Florentine Films and WETA, Washington, DC. Directed by Ken Burns and Lynn Novick. Written by Geoffrey C. Ward. Produced by Sarah Botstein, Lynn Novick and Ken Burns.

For images and additional up-to-date information on this and other PBS programs, visit PBS Press Room at [pbs.org/pressroom](https://www.pbs.org/pressroom).

ABOUT WCMU PUBLIC MEDIA

WCMU’s mission is to educate, inform, entertain and engage the communities it serves through programming and partnerships.

As one of Central Michigan University’s principal public service commitments, WCMU Public Media has provided television and radio programming and other outreach activities for over 50 years to residents of 52 counties in central and northern Michigan and portions of Ontario. WCMU Public Media is the largest university-owned public broadcasting network in the nation and is a vital community resource.

WCMU Public Television includes WCML 6 Alpena, WCMU 14 Mt. Pleasant, WCMW 21 Manistee, WCMV 27 Cadillac and WCMZ 28 Flint. In addition, WCMU Public Television offers the lifestyle channel “Create,” as well as WCMU PBS Kids, a commercial-free 24/7 channel featuring PBS Kids programming.

WCMU Public Radio includes WCMU-FM 89.5 Mt. Pleasant, WUCX-FM 90.1 Bay City, WCML-FM 91.7 Alpena, 95.1 FM Traverse City, WCMB-FM 95.7 Oscoda, WWCM-FM 96.9 Standish, WCMZ-FM 98.3 Sault Ste. Marie and WCMW-FM 103.9 Harbor Springs. In addition, WCMU News and Talk can be heard at 89.5-2 HD Mt Pleasant; 90.1-2 HD Bay City; 91.7-2 HD Alpena, 103.9-2 HD Harbor Springs and streaming at wcmu.org, through the free WCMU android app, and on NPR One and Apple Music.

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